

Sanford "Sandy" Krasnoff Criminal Justice Council Meeting

MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, March 26, 2018

1:00pm – 3:00pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consideration and Approval of Minutes from February 21, 2018 Meeting
- IV. Opening Remarks
- V. Unfinished Business
 - a. None
- VI. New Business
 - a. Results of 2018 Goal Prioritization Survey
 - b. Subcommittee Reports
 - i. Reentry Taskforce
 - c. Grant Matters
 - i. FY17 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Funds (\$163,527)
 - ii. FY17 Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA) Grant Funds (\$3,206,947)
- VII. Councilmember Updates
- VIII. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Sanford “Sandy” Krasnoff Criminal Justice Council Meeting
March 26, 2018 Minutes

I. Call to Order

Calvin Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:12 pm in the 8th floor Homeland Security Conference Room in City Hall.

Calvin Johnson noted that this is the last Council meeting under the current administration. It is also the last meeting for Maria-Kay Chetta and Rodney Dejoie, who have worked for the City for more than 30 years and have worked to support and monitor the Council in its grant activities

Calvin Johnson introduced Jim Craft, the Executive Director of LCLE. Jim Craft thanked Maria-Kay for her service and presented her with a token of appreciation. Maria-Kay expressed her thanks to Jim Craft, the State, Judge Johnson, and members of her staff.

II. Roll Call

Calvin Johnson called roll of the Councilmembers at 1:19 pm. 13 members were present; quorum was met.

Present at Roll Call

Calvin Johnson
Charles West
Chris Bowman for Leon Cannizzaro
Churita Hansell for Rebecca Dietz
Derwyn Bunton
Germaine Simon
Jason Williams
Lakeasha Cooley
Melanie Talia
Ranord Darensbourg for Candace Bates-Anderson
Steve Lassalle
Susan Guidry
Thelma French

Absent

Arthur Morrell
David Kent
Fred Luter
Jeffrey Rouse
John Penny
Judy Reese Morse
Michael Harrison
Paul Sens
Stacy Head

Arrived Later

Keva Landrum-Johnson

Office of Criminal Justice Coordination Staff

Sarah Schirmer
Maria-Kay Chetta
Tuwan Brown
Rodney Dejoie
Shelbi Flynn

III. Consideration and Approval of Minutes from February 21, 2018 Meeting

Councilmember Williams moved to approve the minutes; Chris Bowman seconded.
All in favor – no nays – no abstentions.
The minutes were approved.

Keva Landrum-Johnson arrived at 1:22 pm.

IV. Opening Remarks

Calvin Johnson thanked everyone for attending the special meeting of the Council in order to allocate the FY17 Violence Against Women (VAWA) grant funds and the FY17 Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA) grant funds.

New Orleans received \$3,206,947, nearly \$540,000 less than last year. In advance of this meeting, OCJC discovered that the FY16 VOCA grant has an available balance of \$35,019. Calvin Johnson requested a motion to add “allocation of the FY16 VOCA residual grant funds” to the agenda today.

Keva Landrum-Johnson moved to amend the agenda accordingly; Chris Bowman seconded.

All in favor- no nays- no abstentions.

The agenda was amended.

V. Unfinished Business

a. none

VI. New Business

a. Results of 2018 Goal Prioritization Survey

Sarah Schirmer reviewed the results from the goals survey completed by Councilmembers last month. 10 goals were presented for consideration; 14 total votes were received. Based on these votes, 5 goals were selected as top priorities for the Council. Each of the following goals was selected by at least 50% of voters as their top priority:

1. The Council will assess racial disparity and disproportionality at a specific set of decision points in the juvenile and criminal justice systems.
2. The Council will support its members and stakeholders in implementing programs that reduce recidivism.
3. The Council will design and implement a grant-allocation process that has clear rules, prioritizes outcome-based proposals, and sets clear expectations for non-performance
4. The Council will develop an audit to objectively assess the efficiency of the criminal justice system and make recommendations for improvement.
5. The Council will define a set of indicators that measure the outcomes and overall “health” of the criminal and juvenile justice systems, with respect to the funding appropriated to the systems.

b. Subcommittee Reports

i. Reentry Taskforce

Calvin Johnson introduced Thelma French and Dr. Kim Rugon of Goodwill to provide a report on the Reentry Taskforce, a subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Council.

Dr. Rugon noted that she and Dr. Delaney have assumed leadership of the Taskforce now that James Logan, the former Re-entry Program Manager, has departed from his position.

Dr. Rugon gave an overview of the Re-entry Taskforce. The Taskforce serves as a backbone and convening agency for cross-sector partners working to improve outcomes for formerly incarcerated people in Orleans Parish. The Steering Team provides overall coordination and the seven workgroups focus on planning, advocacy, and development in their respective areas of concentration.

The committee was very effective during the November 2017 releases. Steve LaSalle commended the Taskforce for its coordinated response to an unprecedented amount of people and the associated burden. Through the Taskforce, several key service providers convened at Probation and Parole to assist individuals with services immediately upon release. This still occurs twice a week.

c. Grant Matters

Calvin Johnson noted that Councilmembers have the 2017 Annual Grant Report in their meeting packet. The report provides performance against stated objectives for every grant with activity in 2017.

i. FY17 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Funds (\$163,527)

Calvin Johnson introduced the first grant matter for consideration: FY17 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant in the amount of \$163,527. This grant must be distributed 50/50 between law enforcement and prosecution.

The District Attorney's Office and NOPD were invited to present on their proposals. NOPD noted that the current proposal represents a continuation of the previous grant.

Councilmember Guidry moved to allocate the funds as proposed; Charles West seconded. 12 in favor – 0 nays – 1 abstention.

The allocation was approved.

ii. Allocation of the FY16 VOCA residual grant funds

Calvin Johnson reviewed the rules and parameters for the allocation process as follows:

Agencies represented by 3 of the Councilmembers present here today submitted proposals: Juvenile Court, Criminal District Court, and District Attorney's Office. These Councilmembers must abstain from the vote as a result, and Robert's Rules state that their abstentions do not count toward the majority vote because their votes are not cast.

Since allocation of the FY16 VOCA residual funds was added to the agenda, that money is also available for allocation today. It cannot be added to the pool of FY17 funds, but Councilmembers can approve grants that add up to less than the amount available.

Councilmembers received the proposals and assessments from this office last week. Since the annual report wasn't available yet, OCJC included some general information in the assessments related to performance under the currently operating VOCA grants.

Given the large number of proposals, Councilmembers and applicants were notified that each organization will not be asked to present on their proposed use of grant funds. However, each organization was asked to have representatives present for any questions from the Councilmembers.

Calvin Johnson requested a motion to allocate the FY16 VOCA residual funds to proposals that total less than the \$35,019 available.

Charles West moved to fund the proposals submitted by the Sheriff's Office and Southeast Legal Services; Chris Bowman seconded.

All in favor- no nays- no abstentions.

The motion was approved.

iii. FY17 Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA) Grant Funds (\$3,206,947)

Calvin Johnson moved to the next grant matter: FY17 Victims of Crime Assistance grant, or VOCA. New Orleans received \$3,206,947 in funding; 29 proposals totaling nearly \$3.5 million were submitted.

Calvin Johnson explained that the Council will allocate the FY17 VOCA grant in an omnibus package, meaning a proposed allocation of the entire \$3.2 million will be voted on. A Councilmember must move to propose an allocation that fits within the \$3.2 million available.

Councilmembers were provided with a list of each VOCA proposal, the amount requested in FY16, the amount requested today, and a measure of performance if those activities were VOCA funded in 2017. The list also includes the score assigned by OCJC based on the assessments that Councilmembers received last week.

Calvin Johnson clarified that OCJC is not making a recommendation about which proposals to fund, but is recommending removing costs related to four things in nearly every proposal, due to the limited availability of funds: 1) travel for conferences and parking (not in-town/client-related travel); 2) general office supplies, not including program supplies; 3) indirect costs; and 4) insurance. The Council could choose to include them in a motion, but would need to offset those costs with cuts to other proposals.

Calvin Johnson asked if Councilmembers had questions regarding any of the proposals.

Thelma French commented that she does not recommend cutting indirect costs for nonprofits. Councilmember Williams agreed with her assertion.

Chris Bowman clarified that the complete amount of funds requested reflects allowable expenses. Sarah Schirmer affirmed all requested expenditures are allowable.

Councilmembers requested additional information from organization representatives regarding the following proposals:

- Juvenile Court - Human Trafficking
- NOPD – Advocates in Districts
- NOPD – Victim Assistance Program
- Children’s Hospital – Victim Assistance Program (Child Trafficking)
- Covenant House – Victim/Survivors of Human Trafficking
- Catholic Charities – Domestic Violence Legal Assistance
- UMC – Forensic Program Advancement
- UMC – Restructuring of Legal Assault Services

At the conclusion of these questions, Charles West moved to allocate the funds as requested with the following modifications:

1. Exclude: parking/travel, office supplies, and insurance costs for all proposals;
2. Exclude indirect costs requested by Tulane University Law Clinic;
3. Reduce Juvenile Court’s funding by \$12,048;
4. Decline to fund two proposals: NOPD Advocates in Districts and UMC Forensic Program Advancement

Calvin Johnson requested public comment on the proposed allocation.

Tulane Law Clinic requested that indirect costs be included for their proposal, stating that they have been required by LCLE to take indirect costs at a certain rate. Maria-Kay Chetta and Derwyn Bunton clarified that LCLE cannot require an awardee to take indirect costs.

UMC noted that there is only one forensic nurse working full time. Without follow-up, sexual assault patients often do not get the care they need – increased staff capacity would help with this.

NOPD requested that funding for its Advocates in Districts program be reconsidered – the funding is for three months to finish work that is funded under the FY16 VOCA grant, although staff have not yet been hired.

Maria-Kay Chetta noted that there's an anticipated 78% increase in funding for FY18.

Calvin Johnson called for a vote on the proposed allocation (see table below for details).
10 in favor- 0 nays- 3 abstentions.

The motion to allocate funds was approved.

Agency	Program Name	FY17 Request	Final Vote
CASA	CASA PROGRAM	\$64,761	\$61,632
Catholic Charities	Domestic Violence Legal Assistance	\$213,878	\$199,489
Children's Bureau	Child Abuse Counseling Program	\$60,083	\$59,183
Children's Bureau	Child Advocacy Program 9	\$62,740	\$61,840
Children's Bureau	Child Survivors of Violent Crime	\$241,708	\$238,603
Children's Bureau	Victim Assistance Program (Trauma Counseling)	\$89,435	\$88,130
Children's Hospital	CARE Center/Child Abuse Program	\$293,196	\$288,092
Children's Hospital	Victim Assistance Program w/NOFJA (Child Trafficking)	\$68,136	\$61,169
Covenant House New Orleans	Victim/Survivors of Human Trafficking	\$130,528	\$130,528
Criminal District Court	Domestic Violence Monitoring Court	\$161,242	\$161,242
Family Service of Greater New Orleans	Victim Assistance Program	\$206,109	\$202,917
Metro Centers for Community Advocacy	Sexual Assault Program	\$47,596	\$47,596
New Orleans Family Justice Alliance	NOFJC DV Forensic Program	\$155,282	\$147,501
New Orleans Family Justice Alliance	Victim Assistance 9	\$386,897	\$385,697
New Orleans Family Justice Alliance	Victim Assistance NOJFC/CAC Collaborative	\$61,500	\$61,500
New Orleans Family Justice Alliance	Victim Services in Civil District Court	\$62,746	\$62,746
New Orleans Police Department	Advocates in Districts	\$33,590	\$0
New Orleans Police Department	Victim Assistance Program	\$99,253	\$98,253
Orleans Parish District Attorney	Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Victim Assistance Program	\$77,698	\$77,698
Orleans Parish Juvenile Court	Human Trafficking	\$82,456	\$65,670
Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office	Victim Assistance Program		\$0
Silence is Violence	Intensive Victim Support Services	\$184,767	\$177,167

Southeast LA Legal Services	Victim to Survivor Legal Advocacy		\$0
STAR	Sexual Assault Program	\$167,431	\$166,831
Tulane Law Clinic	Civil Legal Services for Domestic Violence Survivors	\$109,678	\$82,259
University Medical Center	Forensic Program Advancement	\$95,779	\$0
University Medical Center	Restructuring of Sexual Assault Services	\$91,361	\$87,906
VIET	Culturally Sensitive Linguistic Program	\$86,871	\$81,221
			\$112,077
Women With a Vision	Victim Assistance Program	\$115,677	

VII. Councilmember Updates

Calvin Johnson noted that the Electronic Monitoring Committee will hear from Jim Kelly at its next meeting on April 17th.

Councilmember Guidry commented that it was her last meeting as well and it has been great working with everyone. Calvin Johnson echoed her sentiments.

VIII. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Councilmember Williams moved to adjourn; Derwyn Bunton seconded.

All in favor- no nays- no abstentions.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.